

# **PLAINTIFF'S COMPLAINT**

THE PLAINTIFF, HOSTMANN-STEINBERG INC. f/k/a MICRO INKS CORPORATION ("Hostmann") and for its Complaint for Equitable and other Relief against the Defendant, PRO LINE PRINTING, INC. ("Pro Line"), states as follows:

# **PARTIES**

- 1. Hostmann is a Delaware corporation with its principal place of business in Kankakee, Illinois. Hostmann is engaged in the business of manufacturing and supplying various printing inks for use in the United States.
- 2. Pro Line is a Texas corporation with its principal place of business in Irving, Texas. Pro Line is engaged in the business of printing newspaper inserts, does business in Texas and may be served with process through its registered agent, John G. Brown, 101 Decker Drive, Suite 100, Irving, Texas 75062.

## **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

3. This Court has original jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1332(a). The matter in controversy exceeds the sum or value of \$75,000, exclusive of

interest and costs, and is between citizens of different states, as Hostmann is a Delaware corporation with its principal place of business in Illinois and Pro Line is a Texas corporation with its principal place of business in Texas.

4. Venue is proper in this judicial district under 28 U.S.C. §1391(a) because Pro Line resides in this district and a substantial part of the events giving rise to Hostmann's claims occurred in this district.

# COUNT 1 (Breach of Contract)

- 5. Hostmann restates and realleges the allegations set forth in paragraphs 1-4 above, as if fully set forth herein.
- 6. On January 1, 2006, Hostmann and Pro Line entered into an Ink Supply Agreement (the "Agreement"). A copy of the Agreement is attached hereto as Exhibit A. The term of the Agreement was for thirty-six months, commencing on January 1, 2006, and ending on December 31, 2008. The Agreement referred to each 12-month period, beginning on January 1 and ending on December 31, as a "Supply Year."
- 7. Pursuant to the Agreement, Pro Line agreed to purchase from Hostmann printing inks for use at specific Pro Line locations in connection with Pro Line's printing business. The Agreement required Pro Line to purchase 90 percent of its aggregate ink purchases from Hostmann and a minimum of 12 million pounds of printing inks for each of the three Supply Years.
- 8. Pro Line's purchase of printing inks for the 2006 Supply Year was below the minimum 12 million pounds as required under the Agreement. As a result, Pro Line breached the Agreement.

- 9. Because of Pro Line's failure to purchase the minimum amount of printing inks under the Agreement, Hostmann suffered actual damages in an amount in excess of \$75,000, including, but not limited to lost sales and lost profits.
- 10. Hostmann satisfactorily performed all of its obligations under the Agreement.
- 11. Plaintiff has been required to employ the undersigned attorneys in order to prosecute its claim for breach of contract. Pursuant to Sec. 38.001, Texas Civil Practices and Remedies Code, Plaintiff is entitled to recover its reasonable attorneys' fees from Defendant.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, Hostmann-Steinberg Inc., requests this Court to enter judgment in its favor and against Defendant, Pro Line Printing, Inc., in an amount in excess of \$75,000, plus interest, and such other relief as this Court deems fair and just.

# COUNT II (Specific Performance)

- 12. Hostmann restates and realleges the allegations set forth in paragraphs 1-10 above, as if fully set forth herein.
- 13. Currently, the Agreement continues between Hostmann and Pro Line. Pro-Line's obligations to purchase a minimum of 12 million pounds of printing inks for each Supply Year under the Agreement also continue
- 14. Pro Line is breaching the Agreement by failing to purchase enough printing inks such that it would be able to meet the minimum of 12 million pounds required under the Agreement for the 2007 Supply Year.
- 15. As a result, Hostmann is injured and will continue to be injured as a result of Pro Line's failure to perform its obligations under the Agreement.

- 16. There is no adequate remedy at law for Pro Line's failure to perform its obligations under the Agreement.
- 17. At all times relevant herein, Hostmann has satisfactorily performed all of its obligations under the Agreement.

# **JURY DEMAND**

Pursuant to F.R.C.P. Rule 38, Plaintiff demands a trial by jury of all issues.

WHEREFORE, the Plaintiff, Hostmann-Steinberg Inc., requests this Court to enter an Order in its favor and against Defendant, Pro Line Printing, Inc., requiring Pro Line to comply with the purchase requirements regarding printing inks for the 2007 Supply Year pursuant to the Agreement, and such other relief as this Court deems fair and just.

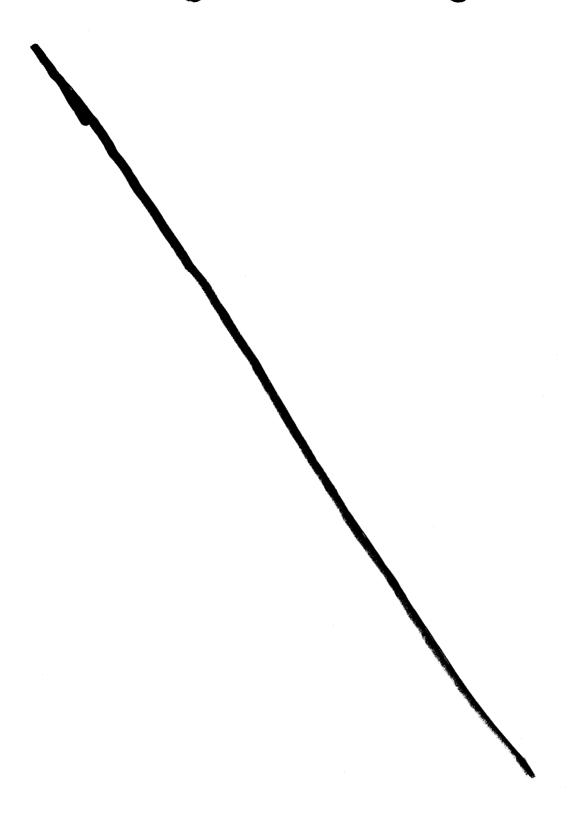
Respectfully submitted,

By: William Dixon Wiles William Dixon Wiles State Bar No. 21467800

HIERSCHE, HAYWARD, DRAKELEY & URBACH, P.C.

Suite 700, 15303 Dallas Parkway Addison, Texas 75001 972-701-7000 (Telephone) 972-701-8765 (Fax)

ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF



# EXHIBIT "A"

## INK SUPPLY AGREEMENT

THIS INK SUPPLY AGREEMENT is entered into by and between MICRO INKS CORPORATION, ("Micro") and PRO LINE PRINTING, INC., ("Pro-line") and is effective as of January 1, 2006 (the "Effective Date"). This Agreement replaces and supersedes all prior agreements between Micro and Pro-line.

#### TERM 1

1.2.1 Unless terminated earlier, the term of this Agreement shall be for thirty six (36) months, commencing on January 1, 2006, and ending on December 31, 2008. For the purpose of this Agreement, each "Supply Year" shall begin on January 1, and shall end on December 31.

### **VOLUMES, PRICING, PAYMENT AND OTHER TERMS** 2

Supply Quantity: The quantity to be supplied for each of the Supply Years shall 2.2 be at least 90% of Pro-line's aggregate ink purchases (in volume) subject to a minimum of 12 million lbs. The allocation of locations will be in order of

Charlotte NC; 100% of Printing Ink requirements

Avon, CT; 100% of Printing Ink requirements

Dallas, TX; 100% of Printing Ink requirements

Reno, NV; the balance of contract quantity specified above

#### 2.3 Pricing

- 2.3.1 The prices of the current products will be as set forth on Schedule A-1. This price is guaranteed for a period of one year. The prices for subsequent years will be finalized and agreed 60 days prior to the commencement of the Supply Year. If Micro and Pro-line are unable to reach an agreement on the price applicable for any Supply Year, Pro-line, except for increases as specified in 2.3.2, has the right to terminate this Agreement with 60 days notice.
- 2.3.2 The prices for any Supply Year will be higher by \$0.02/lbs, if the actual purchase for the preceding Supply Year does not meet the minimum quantity commitments specified in Section 2.2.
- Payment Terms. Payment terms are net 30 days from the date of invoice. No 2.4 extended payment terms will be allowed without prior consultation and consent of Micro.
- Delivery: All deliveries to Pro-line by Micro shall be FOB Pro-line's plant. 2.5

2.7 <u>Incentive</u>: Micro agrees to waive amortization of any and all incentive money.

### 3 MISCELLANEOUS

- 3.1 Merger, Severability, and Waiver. This Agreement constitutes the entire understanding between the parties with respect to the sale and purchase of all products between the parties. If any of the provisions of this Agreement are declared invalid, illegal or unenforceable, the validity of the remaining provisions shall not be affected. Waiver of any default or breach of this Agreement shall not constitute or be construed as a waiver of any other default or breach.
- 3.2 <u>Assignment.</u> Without the prior written approval of Micro Inks, Pro-line shall not permit any assignment, pledge or hypothecation of this contract or any rights hereunder. This Agreement shall inure to the benefit of and shall be binding upon the parties to this Agreement and their successors and permitted assigns.
- Termination. Pro-line agrees that if there are quality issues with Micro's products, Micro will have sixty (60) days from the date of Pro-line's written notice to Micro to correct the quality issues to the satisfaction of Pro-line. If such issues are not cured to Pro-line's satisfaction within said sixty (60) day period, Pro-line shall have the right to terminate this Agreement effective upon the expiration of said sixty (60) day period, without any further liability hereunder.
- Amendment. No amendment or modification of any of the provisions of this Agreement shall be binding upon the parties unless made in writing and signed by a duly authorized representative of each party.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this Agreement as of the Effective Date.

MICROINKS CORPORATION

Name: Name: Title:

Date: 02-08-06

PRO LINE PRINTING, INC.

By: Name: SOWN A 350

Title: CEO

# SCHEDULE A-1

# **Pricing**

Description	Price
Thermo Print Low tack Heatset Process Black	\$0.78
Thermo Print Low Tack Heatset Process Cyan	\$1.19
Thermo Print Low Tack Heatset Process Magenta	\$1.19
Thermo Print Low Tack Heatset Process Yellow	\$1.09
Set Price	\$4,25

Description	Price
Thermo Print High Tack Heatset Process Black	\$1.17
Thermo Print High Tack Heatset Process Cyan	\$1.62
Thermo Print High Tack Heatset Process Magenta	\$1.60
Thermo Print High Tack Heatset Process Yellow	\$1,37
Set Price	\$5.76

Above prices are based on Tote or bulk quantities. Standard differentials apply in case of shipments in drums or kits.

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The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supp provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the Uni of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE REVERSE OF THE FORM.)	
I. (a) PLANOTIFIES DISTRICT OF TEXAS	DEFENDANTS
Hostmann-Steinberg Inc. f/k/a Micro Inks Corporation, a Delaware corporation	Pro Line Printing, Inc.  3-07 CV 1064-N
(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff Kankakee, Illinois  ORIGINAL  (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)	County of Residence of First Listed Defendant Dallas, Texas  (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY)  NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE LAND INVOLVED.
(c) Attorney's (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number) William Dixon Wiles, Esq., Hiersche, Hayward, Drakeley & Urbach, PC 15303 Dallas Parkway, Suite 700, Addison, TX 75001 - 972-701-7000	Attorneys (If Known) John W. Harris, Esq., Jordan, Dunlap, Prather & Harris, L.L.P. Campbell Centre II, Suite 1800, 8150 N. Central Exprw., Dallas, TX 75206
☐ 1 U.S. Government ☐ 3 Federal Question	CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES (Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff (For Diversity Cases Only)  and One Box for Defendant)  PTF DEF  izen of This State
☐ 2 U.S. Government	izen of Another State
	izen or Subject of a 3 3 Foreign Nation 6 6
□ 110 Insurance       PERSONAL INJURY       □ 362 Personal Injury - □ 362 Personal Injury - □ 360 Negotiable Instrument       □ 315 Airplane Product Liability       □ 365 Personal Injury - □ Med. Malpractice       □ 40 Malpractice       □ 365 Personal Injury - □ Med. Malpractice       □ 368 Personal Injury - □ Med. Malpractic	### BANKRUPTCY  610 Agriculture 620 Other Food & Drug 625 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 881 630 Liquor Laws 640 R.R. & Truck 650 Airline Regs. 660 Occupational Safety/Health 690 Other    Bank
Proceeding State Court Appellate Court Re	Transferred from Sudge
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:  CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION UNDER F.R.C.P. 23	DEMAND \$ CHECK YES only if demanded in complaint:  JURY DEMAND: ☑ Yes ☐ No

	sher description of cause.				
VII. REQUESTED IN	CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION	DEMAND \$	CHECK YES only if d	demanded in complaint:	
COMPLAINT:	UNDER F.R.C.P. 23		JURY DEMAND:	<b>⊠</b> Yes □ No	
VIII. RELATED CASE(S) PENDING OR CLOSE	CD (See instructions): JUDGE		DOCKET NUMBER		

DATE	- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·

RECEIPT# AMOUNT APPLYING IFP

JUDGE

MAG. JUDGE